

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 72 without prejudice or disclaimer, amend claims 60, 66-70, 73-82, and 84-85, and add claims 91-96 as follows:

60. A method for providing passive immune protection to a patient in need thereof comprising:
administering enriched or purified intimin protein to a host to generate anti-intimin antibodies; and
administering an amount of the generated anti-intimin antibodies from the host to the patient effective to provide passive immune protection to the patient;
wherein the anti-intimin antibodies block binding of enterohemorrhagic *E. coli* to a mammalian cell.

66. The method of claim 60, wherein the host is an animal chosen from at least one of a domesticated animal, wildlife, and a laboratory animal.

67. The method of claim 66, wherein the host animal is a cow, pig, rabbit, or mouse.

68. The method of claim 67, wherein the host animal is a milk-producing animal.

69. The method of claim 68, wherein the patient is an offspring of the milk-producing animal.

70. The method of claim 67, wherein the patient is a newborn.

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73. A method of providing a safer food source, comprising:

administering enriched or purified intimin protein to a first food mammal to generate anti-intimin antibodies;

administering an amount of the generated anti-intimin antibodies from the first food mammal to a second food mammal, wherein the amount of the generated anti-intimin antibodies is effective to provide passive immune protection to the second food mammal, and wherein the anti-intimin antibodies block binding of enterohemorrhagic *E. coli* to a mammalian cell; and

preparing at least one of the first and the second food mammals as a food source for human consumption.

74. The method of claim 73, wherein the first food mammal is a milk-producing mammal, and further comprising administering the amount of the generated anti-intimin antibodies directly from the milk-producing mammal to its offspring.

75. The method of claim 74, further comprising birthing the offspring, and preparing at least one of the offspring and at least one of the first and the second food mammals as a food source for human consumption.

76. A method for providing a safer food source, by providing a food mammal with protection from enterohemorrhagic *E. coli* infection comprising:

administering enriched or purified intimin protein to a host to generate anti-intimin antibodies; and

administering an amount of the generated anti-intimin antibodies from the host to the food mammal effective to provide passive immune protection to the food mammal; wherein the anti-intimin antibodies block binding of enterohemorrhagic *E. coli* to a mammalian cell, and

wherein the safer food source is derived from the food mammal, and the food mammal is chosen from at least one of a domesticated mammal and wildlife.

77. The method of claim 76, wherein said food mammal is at least one of a cow, pig, and rabbit.

78. The method of claim 76, further comprising preparing said at least one food mammal as a food source for human consumption.

79. The method of claim 76, further comprising breeding said at least one food mammal.

80. The method of claim 76, wherein the food mammal is a milk-producing mammal.

81. The method of claim 76, wherein the food mammal is a cow or a calf.

82. The method of claim 81, further comprising preparing the cow or calf as a food source for human consumption.

84. The method of claim 73, wherein the injection is intraperitoneal, intravenous, subcutaneous, or intramuscular.

85. The method of claim 76, wherein the administration of the enriched or purified intimin protein is via injection.

91. (New) The method of claim 73, wherein at least one of the first and second food mammals is at least one of a cow, pig, and rabbit.

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92. (New) The method of claim 91, wherein the administration of the enriched or purified intimin protein is via injection.

93. (New) The method of claim 73, wherein the injection is intraperitoneal, intravenous, subcutaneous, or intramuscular.

94. (New) The method of claim 73, wherein the administration of the enriched or purified intimin protein is via ingestion, gavage, or intranasal inoculation.

95. (New) The method of claim 73, wherein the administration of the enriched or purified intimin protein further comprises at least one adjuvant.

96. (New) A method for providing a laboratory mammal with passive immune protection from enterohemorrhagic *E. coli* infection comprising:

administering enriched or purified intimin protein to a host to generate anti-intimin antibodies; and

administering an amount of the generated anti-intimin antibodies from the host to the laboratory mammal, wherein the amount of the generated anti-intimin antibodies is effective to provide passive immune protection to said laboratory mammal; and wherein the anti-intimin antibodies block binding of enterohemorrhagic *E. coli* to a mammalian cell.

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully thank Examiner Portner for the helpful interview of December 19, 2001. Claims 68-70, 73-82, and 84-85 have been amended, claims 91-96 have